

# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The Grove City Division of Police recognizes the problems and complexities of domestic violence by providing services, intervention, and assistance to victims of domestic violence that positively impact their lives.

## THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE

**Phase 1** (Similar to a brewing storm)

Typically characterized by anger, blaming and increased tension.

**Phase 2** (The storm)

Typically characterized by battering, hitting, slapping, kicking, choking,, sexual abuse, and verbal threats.

**Phase 3** (The calm)

Typically characterized by denial or minimization of the abuse, promises not to do it again, or blaming the victim for causing them to lose their temper.

Victims of domestic violence may require more intervention than other victims due to the sporadic or cyclic pattern of abuse, lower self-esteem, economic and emotional dependence on the abuser, and victim's isolation from family and friends occasioned by past actions of the abuser. Victims may exhibit some of the following signs or symptoms of abuse:

- Low self-esteem
- Economically or emotionally dependent on mate
- Exhibit anxiety, depression and fear
- Develops coping mechanisms of compliance to avoid violence
- May minimize severity of violence
- Isolation from family and friends
- Repeated unexplained injuries
- Feels responsible for actions of mate

*One in every four women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime<sup>1</sup>*

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS A CRIME

According to The Ohio Revised Code, section 2919.25, the law provides penalties for assaults or threats of assaults occurring between family or household members.

- No person shall knowingly cause or attempt to cause harm to a family or household member.
- No person shall recklessly cause serious physical harm to a family member or household member.
- No person, by threat of force, shall knowingly cause a family or household member to believe that the offender will cause imminent physical harm to the family or household member.

## WHAT DOES AN ABUSER LOOK LIKE?

It may be hard to tell if someone is a domestic violence offender. Offenders may exhibit these characteristics:

- Appear smooth and charming in public
- Overly attentive and concerned about mate
- May be an abuser of drugs or alcohol
- May be a child of an abusive family
- Erratic in work patterns
- Explosive temper
- Excessively jealous
- Places responsibility for his actions on others
- Minimizes effects of their abuse of others
- Low self-esteem
- Controlling of one or all of the following: (victim's) money, friends, time, image

A family or household member means a spouse, person living as a spouse, parent, child, former spouse with a common child, or other person related by blood or marriage, who is living or has lived with the offender within a reasonable length of time.

The law provides for penalties up to six months in jail and/or up to a \$1,000 fine. A previous conviction could result in any subsequent offenses carrying a penalty of as much as five years in jail and/or a \$2,500 fine.

## PROTECTION ORDERS

Additional relief is available to victims in the form of protection orders.

**A criminal temporary protection order (TPO)** can be issued by a Franklin County Municipal Court Judge with an order to leave the victim alone until the criminal case is resolved. Violation of a TPO is a criminal offense and should be immediately reported to the police. The victim must petition the court for a TPO. This may be done by contacting the Columbus City Prosecutor's Witness Assistance Program at 645-7657. These orders are usually served on the offender at the initial arraignment. The victim must appear in Courtroom 4D prior to 9 a.m. on the day of arraignment, which is usually the day after an arrest, except on Sundays or holidays. To verify the arraignment date you can call the Franklin County Municipal Clerk of Courts at 645-7657.

**A Civil Protection Order (CPO)** may be granted by a Franklin County Domestic Relations Court Judge upon petition, which also orders the offender to leave the victim alone usually for a set time up to five years. Violation of a CPO is a criminal offense and should be reported to the police immediately. A CPO can assist victims by addressing such issues as temporary custody of minor children, and temporary orders of spousal and child support. These orders can only be filed by legal aid or a private attorney.

## RESPONSE AND INTERVENTION

If you or someone you know becomes a victim of domestic violence, contact the local police department immediately. In Grove City you can call the Grove City Division of Police at 614-277-1710, or in an emergency call 911. Family, friends, and/or officers of the Grove City Division of Police may provide the first lines of communication necessary to assist a victim in breaking the cycles of violence. Grove City Police Officers responding to calls of domestic violence will follow the guidelines adopted by the state of Ohio, which includes a policy of preferred arrest: for offenders, and will arrest offenders when probable cause exists. Offenders who have fled prior to police arrival shall be subjected to immediate issuance of an arrest warrant.”

## REFERRAL

As a member of the Grove City Division of Police, my goal is to provide intervention that positively impacts you as a victim.

My name is: \_\_\_\_\_

My badge number is: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

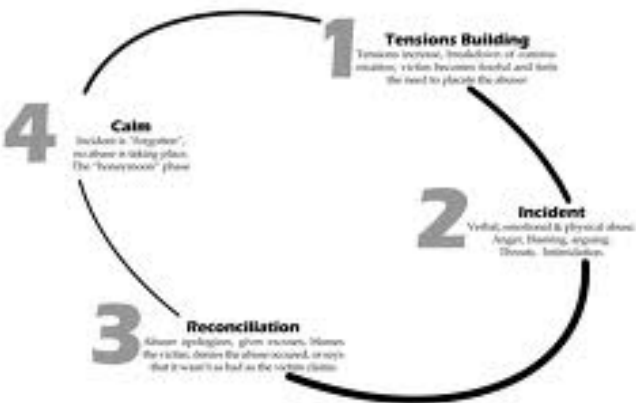
## EMERGENCY SHELTER AND VICTIM'S ADVOCACY

You may contact the following agencies and offices for additional information:

- \*Choices**  
(Address confidential). . . . . (614)224-4663  
**Columbus City Prosecutor's Witness Assistance Program**  
375 S. High Street. . . . . (614)645-6232  
**YMCA—Family Center**  
900 Harvey Court . . . . . (614)253-3910

1. Source: Tjaden, Patricia & Thoennes, Nancy. National Institute of Justice and the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, “Extent, Nature and Consequences of Intimate Partner Violence: Findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey,” (2000).

## CYCLE OF ABUSE



It is important to remember that not all domestic violence relationships fit the cycle. Often, as time goes on, the 'making-up' and 'calm' stages disappear. (Source: domesticviolence.org)



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Mayor Richard L. Stage  
Chief Steven R. Robinette



## GROVE CITY DIVISION OF POLICE

3360 Park Street • Grove City • Ohio, 43123  
911 . . . Emergency  
Non-Emergency 614. 277.1710

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